

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
Fire Assistance Support Team
305.03
Rev 9-22-92

PURPOSE

The goal of the Fire Assistance Support Team (FAST) is to provide comprehensive support and assistance to victims of a residential fire or extraordinary circumstance. By providing moral and physical support, and by establishing communications with victims assistance organizations, FAST can provide for basic human needs and aid in reducing the victim's feelings of anxiety, often experienced by so many people, following emergency situations.

FAST's primary objectives are to:

- A. Relieve the victim(s) from any additional stress by thoroughly explaining firefighting procedures and the complexities of extinguishing a structure fire. A FAST member will remain with the victim(s) to answer any questions throughout an incident.
- B. Assess the victim's immediate needs (i.e., housing, clothing, food) and mobilize resources (family and service organizations) for meeting these needs. FAST will insure that immediate needs have been addressed prior to terminating an incident and leaving the scene.

Organizations which may be utilized by FAST includes:

American Red Cross
Salvation Army
Tempe Emergency Relief Fund (TERF)
Marriott Residence Inn
Super 8 Motel

- C. Provide immediate local transportation needs.
- D. Initiate follow-up contact with victim(s) within 24 hours after the termination of an incident.

Primary responsibility for the Fire Assistance Support Team rests with the Public Education Specialists. Other members of the team include the Fire Prevention Secretary, Inventory Services Specialist, Senior Fire Inspector, Fire Inspectors, and Fire Marshal.

Team membership may be supplemented by assigning any Fire Department member in the event of large scale or unusual situations.

PROCEDURE

On-scene fire department members should assess the situation to determine the need for a FAST response. To initiate a FAST response notify Alarm.

GUIDELINES

Responding FAST members **MUST** wear **COMPLETE** Fire Department issued uniform.

If a FAST member is responding to the fire scene, one engine or ladder company must remain on-scene until the FAST member arrives, unless a subsequent emergency response dictates otherwise.

